

Augusta Judicial Circuit  
Adult Felony  
Drug Court Program



New Participant  
Orientation

Welcome to the Augusta Judicial Circuit Adult Felony Drug Court program. This is your orientation packet. Please read the instructions each week as well as due dates and how to submit your paperwork.

## INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Read the following information completely and make sure you understand what is expected.
2. Review the map to see where you need to go for treatment.
3. Be on time for your appointments, court hearings, treatment sessions, and curfew.
4. Always keep a hard copy of your AA sheets, community service forms, payments, special requests, violation report [if received], etc.
5. Ask questions if you are unsure of what is expected. This is accountability court and you will be held accountable for all of your actions/inactions.

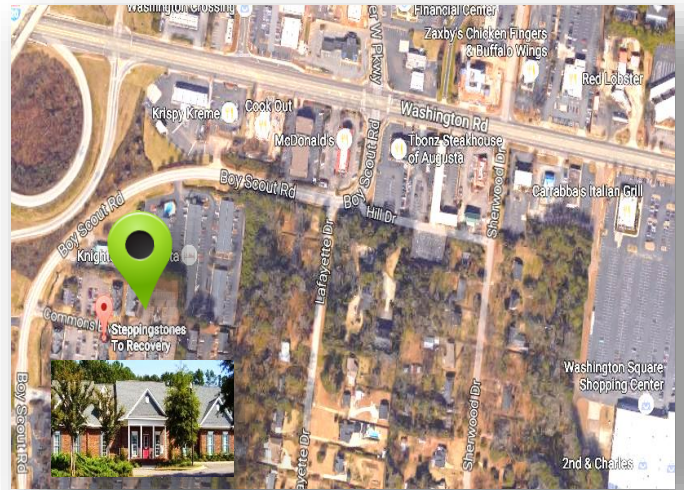


**During Phase 1, you are required to submit a drug screen for the first 30 days – to include Saturdays**

## RULES:

1. Cell Phones are NOT ALLOWED during ANY drug court related activity (court, treatment, etc.).
2. Phase 1 community service is not a suggestion ~ it is a REQUIREMENT. If you are in phase 1, you are required to complete CS in addition to AA/NA.
3. If you have an issue, DO NOT WAIT until court on Thursday to speak with a drug court representative.
4. All communication will be conducted through text for a written record.

Court attendance is required. Court is held on Thursdays starting at 11 AM. Arrive 10 minutes early and remain in the courtroom until dismissed.



## Directions to Stepping Stones to Recovery from Bobby Jones Expressway:

1. Head west on I-520 W
2. Take exit 1A-B for Interstate 20 toward Columbia/Atlanta
3. Keep right at the fork to continue on Exit 1, follow signs for I-20/West Atlanta/East Columbia
4. Keep right at the fork to continue on Exit 1B, follow signs for Interstate 20 E and merge onto I-20 E
5. Take exit 199 for Washington Rd/GA-28 toward Augusta
6. Turn right onto GA-28/Washington Rd (signs for Downtown Augusta)
7. Turn right onto Boy Scout Rd
8. Turn left onto Commons Blvd



Each week, you are required to submit 3 hours of community service [Phase 1 Only], 3 AA/NA's, work detail [if required] by the due date which is Monday at 7 PM. There is NO EXCEPTIONS! No

hard copies are accepted. Please refer to the following information to ensure each form is submitted to the correct address [NOTE: if sent to the wrong email, you will receive notification, via email, that you need to submit to the correct address to receive credit]



## DIRECTIONS TO TREATMENT

Immediately following release from jail [if incarcerated] or the day after entry report to:

2610 Commons Blvd.  
Augusta, GA 30909  
Phone: (706) 733-1935

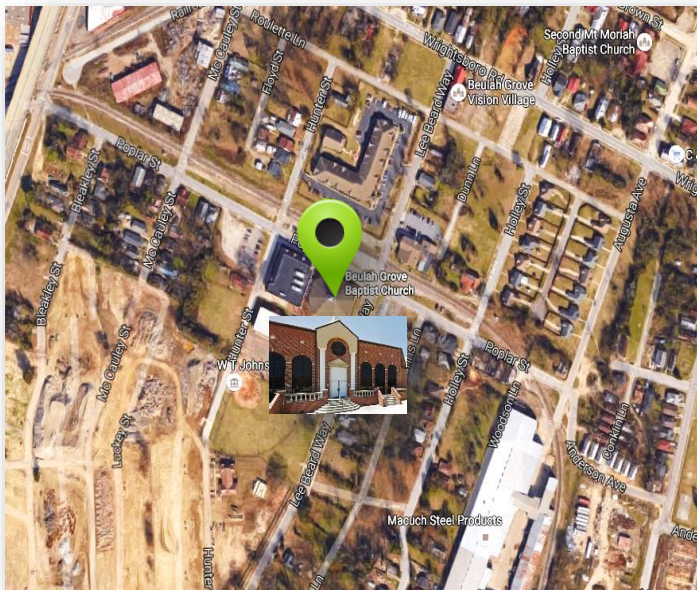
Directions: Turn off Washington Rd. onto Boy Scout Rd. Go 4/10ths of a mile, turn left onto Williamsburg Commons.



Community Service (CS)      dcomserve@gmail.com  
 AA/NA Forms                ajcdcaa@gmail.com  
 Work Detail (WD)            ajcdcwd@gmail.com  
 Special Requests (SR)        ajcdcsr@gmail.com  
 Payments                      ajcdcpayments@gmail.com

## PHASE 1 – COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community Service may be completed at Beulah Grove Baptist church located at 1434 Poplar St, Augusta, GA 30901 Phone: (706) 724-1086 on Saturday morning's beginning at 7 AM. An additional bonus is that you can also attend an AA meeting at BGBC.



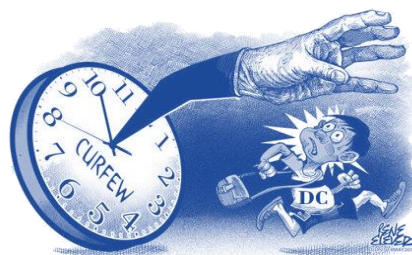
### Directions to Beulah Grove Baptist Church from Walton Way:

1. Head west on Walton Way toward Old Bailie St
2. Turn right onto 15th St
3. Turn right onto Government Rd
4. Turn right onto Poplar St
5. Destination will be on the right

## PHASE 1 – SPONSOR

In phase 1 you are required to obtain an AA/NA sponsor. Verification will be required and phasing to 2 will not be permissible until a sponsor has been obtained. In phase 2 – 5, you are required to attend a minimum of 3 AA/NA meetings weekly.

Failure to complete/submit the required 3 AA/NA meetings by the due/time will result in a sanction.



## CURFEW

As a participant in the program, you are required to be inside your home by your

specific curfew time. Curfew times are as follows:

If not employed                      6 PM

If employed/ in school full-time (with verification):

Phases 1, 2, & 3                      9 PM

Phases 4 & 5                          10 PM

If you are working past your curfew time, you are required to text the curfew line (listed below) EVERY time BEFORE your curfew and once you arrive home.

## Special Requests (SR's)



In order to submit a special request (SR), complete the SR form and submit it by the due date/time deadline. Any SR received after the due date/time will not be considered. In addition, if you

are not in compliance (have a recent

positive, missed treatment, late curfew, behind on program fees [\$500 and below], etc.) your SR will not be approved. SR's are due by Monday 7 PM and will be reviewed on the following Thursday morning before court. You will be informed of the decision either during or immediately following court. SR's will NOT be reviewed or handled by any other process (i.e. requesting

through curfew officers, counselors, etc.) \*Special Notice: During phase 1, you are not permitted to travel out of the jurisdiction you live in.

### Medication Special Requests

The AJCDC program is a drug rehabilitation program therefore, under no conditions are you permitted to take ANY medication (prescribed or over-the-counter) without receiving approval from the court. If you test positive and do not have a prior approval on record, it will be sanctioned as a drug positive. All medication/medical issues are handled through treatment **only**. You will be provided a medication/medical request form to complete and approval or denial will be provided to you once the team has reviewed your request. In the event of an upcoming medical procedure, take all medical documentation to treatment as soon as possible in order to provide the team time to discuss options. Not all medication requests will be approved therefore it is imperative that you wait for a decision before taking any substance. In the event of a medical emergency you are **required** to tell medical personnel that you are involved in a drug court program therefore cannot take any narcotic. Excuses such as "I didn't know" will not be accepted.

### Program Fees & Restitution



As per the contract signed prior to entry, there is a \$50 orientation fee as well as a \$150 monthly fee required for continued participation in the program. Any balance that goes over \$500 is

considered non-compliant with program requirements. You are not eligible for the All-star status during the first 30 days or if you have a balance over \$500. In addition, non-payment will result in denial of phase-up requests as well as special requests.

### Urine Drug Screens (UDS's)

You are required to provide a drug screen a **minimum** of 3 times a week for the duration of the program. We use a color system, so please find out what your color is and make sure you call the UDS number daily to ensure you do not miss a screen. A missed screen is treated as a positive result; therefore, you do not want to miss a drug test. In addition, you are required to provide a specific amount of urine for each test. **Failure to comply will be considered a positive screen and will be sanctioned as such.**



### Urine Drug Screens (UDS's) Results



If you test positive for a substance, you have two choices:

1. Admit; or
2. Request/pay for a confirmation within the

time permitted by the coordinator.

If the results are confirmed negative, the test will not count against you and the confirmation fee will be applied to your program fees, however if the results are confirmed positive or you request a confirmation but do not pay the fee within the required time frame, you will receive double the sanction normally given for the corresponding positive. In the event that you have already passed the two-year mark, you will be terminated from the program as you will not have enough time to fulfill the required 1-year sobriety to graduate the program.

NOTE: If you receive a dilute (creatinine and/or specific gravity), this is considered flushing as an attempt to rid the body of a substance not allowed and **WILL** be treated and sanctioned as a positive.

### Validity Testing - Creatinine

Creatinine is a waste product of creatine, an amino acid contained in muscle tissue found in urine. A person may attempt to beat the urine drug test by drinking excessive amounts of water or diuretics such as herbal teas to "flush" the system. Creatinine and specific gravity are two ways to check for dilution and flushing, which are the most common mechanisms used in an attempt to circumvent

drug testing. Low creatinine is indicative of a specimen not consistent with human urine and is considered a drug positive.



**Attendance at treatment and court is not an option.**

**Failure to appear will result in a warrant.**

**Treatment:** If you are going to be late to treatment, you must contact treatment before your scheduled time to avoid a missed treatment sanction. If you are sick, you must contact treatment before your scheduled time to avoid a missed treatment sanction as well as provide a letter from your doctor for the missed dates.

**Court:** If you are going to be late to court, you must contact the case manager before your scheduled time to avoid a warrant. If you are sick, you must text your case manager **a letter from your doctor before** the scheduled court date to avoid a warrant.


**Certain behaviors will NOT be tolerated in the program.**

1. No cussing at any drug court facility or function
2. Be respectful of staff and participants
3. Arguing with drug court staff and/or personnel will NEVER be tolerated
4. You are expected to go through the phases in accordance to the time periods allotted. Remaining in a specific phase for long periods of time will be addressed as non-compliance with program requirements.
5. Positive screens or other violations are not to be viewed as a time to debate the rules. Know the rules of the program so you can be successful.

**Program Phases**



Understanding the structure of each phase is imperative to your success. Each phase has specific requirements that must be met in order to advance to the next phase. In addition, there are time restraints per phase. The phases are as follows:



**(90 Day Phase)**      Requirements per Week:

- 2-hour treatment sessions 5 times
- Minimum of 3 drug screens (first 30 days – everyday – To include Saturdays)
- Acquire a sponsor [cannot phase to 2 until sponsor has been verified]
- Minimum of 3 hours' community services (CS)
- Court sessions [Every Thursday @ 11]

Curfew 9 pm if employed, 6 pm if unemployed

Minimum 30 days clean required to go to advance to phase 2

Must have paid a program balance of \$275 & a minimum of 20% restitution [if applicable]


**(90 Day Phase)**      Requirements per Week:

- 2-hour treatment sessions 3 times
- Minimum of 3 drug screens
- Minimum of 3 AA/NA meetings
- Court sessions [Every Thursday @ 11]

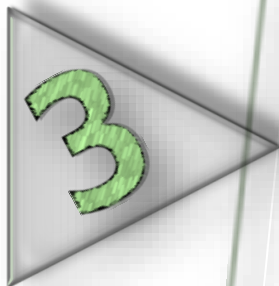
Curfew 9 pm if employed, 6 pm if unemployed

Minimum 45 days clean required to advance to phase 3

Must have paid a program balance of \$800 & a minimum of 40% restitution







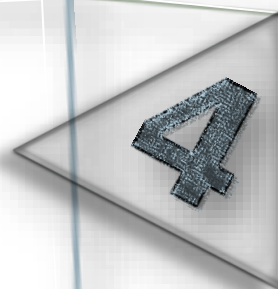
(6-month Phase) Requirements per Week:

- 2-hour treatment sessions 2 times
- Minimum of 3 drug screens
- Minimum of 3 AA/NA meetings
- Court sessions [Every Thursday @ 11]

Curfew 9 pm if employed, 6 pm if unemployed

Minimum of 90 days clean required to advance to phase 4

Must have paid a program balance of \$1700 & a minimum of 60% restitution



(6-month Phase) Requirements per Week:

- 2-hour treatment sessions 1 time & alumni
- Minimum of 3 drug screens
- Minimum of 3 AA/NA meetings

Court sessions 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> or as directed

Curfew 10 pm if employed, 6 pm if unemployed

Minimum of 180 days clean required to advance to phase 5

Must have paid a program balance of \$2600 & a minimum of 80% restitution



(6-month Phase) Requirements per Week:

- 1-hour treatment sessions 1 time & alumni
- Minimum of 3 drug screens
- Minimum of 3 AA/NA meetings

Court session 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month or as directed

Curfew 10 pm if employed, 6 pm if unemployed

Minimum of 360 days clean required to graduate

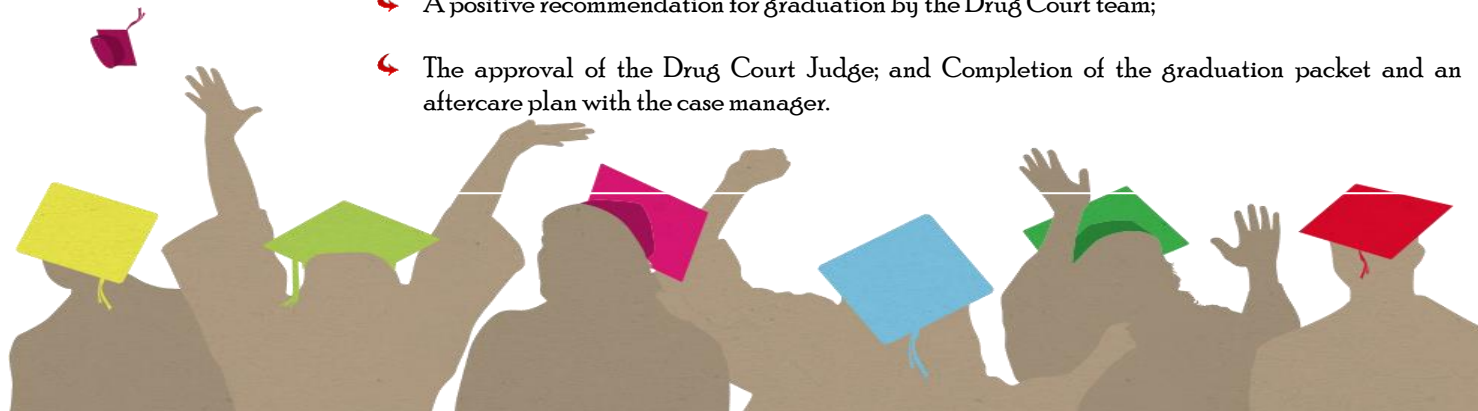
Must have paid all program fees & restitution [if applicable]



Participants must have met all of the following criteria to graduate from the AJCDC program:



- Successful completion of all AJCDC program requirements including payment of all program fees/restitution;
- Twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety;
- A positive recommendation for graduation by the Drug Court team;
- The approval of the Drug Court Judge; and Completion of the graduation packet and an aftercare plan with the case manager.



This is the contact information needed for various inquiries. Please direct your inquiries to the appropriate person(s) for assistance. All medical/treatment inquiries/special requests are directed to Stepping Stones staff (please note that Stepping Stones will send the medication request to the team. Approval is dependent on the team decision), all court, program fees/restitution, or phase requirements are directed to court case manager. Forms are only accepted if received in the appropriate email and by the due date/time. The same Due Date/Time is always Monday by 7 PM. If received after the due date/time, it will not be accepted.

Special Requests are required for all medications. If prescribed by a physician, the prescription along with the medical documents that explain why the medication is required. You will need to turn this information into treatment at which time an email will go out to the team. All documents will be reviewed and an approval/denial will be issued. You are NOT allowed to take any medications without clearing it with drug court first.

For more information, please refer to your handbook or contact a drug court staff member for clarification. You are provided the information needed to prevent unnecessary violations, therefore you are required to read your handbook. Excuses of not knowing will not be accepted.

